

**Dionne's Birds of the Province of Quebec.**<sup>1</sup>—In 1883, Professor Dionne published in French a volume on the Birds of Canada, having, however, special reference to those of the Province of Quebec. It was, and remained till now, the only systematic work in French treating of the birds of this region. As it has long been out of print, the author has wisely decided to bring out a new work restricted to the birds of this Province, in the form of a popular handbook, with a view to promoting a better general knowledge of the birds of this ornithologically neglected Province. As the author says, little has as yet been done towards making known the local distribution of the birds of this Province, which remains still to a large extent an unexplored field.

Following an introduction of ten pages, the species are taken up in systematic sequence, following the order and the nomenclature of the A. O. U. Check-List, even to the revisions of its latest supplements. Diagnoses are given of the genera and the higher groups, with keys to the latter and descriptions of the external characters of the species and subspecies, followed by biographies, sometimes extending to several pages. The plates furnish half-tone figures of about fifty species (mostly from well-known sources) and there are a number of text cuts. All in all, the 'Birds of the Province of Quebec' is well adapted to meet the great need for a popular handbook, in the French language, of the birds of eastern Canada.—J. A. A.

**Clark's Birds of Amherst, Massachusetts.**<sup>2</sup>—The first edition of this little work was published in 1887, and was reviewed in this journal, Volume V, 1888, pp. 105, 106. The number of species then recorded was 179, to which 7 are now added, making 186. The first edition having been long out of print, the present one has been prepared to meet the continued demand for copies. It differs from the former edition in having the species follow each other in a single series, instead of being arranged in three series, in accordance with whether they are of regular, irregular, or of extremely rare occurrence. The 'artificial key' has been rearranged, and a 'field key' added; as already noted seven species are added, and some additions are made to the field notes relating to other species, particularly with

<sup>1</sup> Les Oiseaux de la Province de Québec par C.-E. Dionne | Maître-ès Arts, Conservateur du Musée Zoologique de l'Université Laval, | Membre associé de l' "American Ornithologists Union," de la "National Geographic Society" Washington, etc. Auteur de "Les Oiseaux du Canada," du "Catalogue (annoté) des Oiseaux de la Province de Québec," de "Les Mammifères de la Province de Québec" [Vignette] Québec | Dessault & Proulx | 1896 — 8vo, pp. i-viii, 1-415, 8 half-tone plates, and 21 text cuts.

<sup>2</sup> Second Edition: Revised and Rewritten. — | The Birds of Amherst | and Vicinity, | including nearly the whole of Hampshire County | Massachusetts. — | Hubert Lyman Clark. | With an Introduction by | Professor Charles H. Fernald, Ph. D. — | Amherst: Massachusetts: | Press of Carpenter & Morehouse. | 1906. — 8vo, pp. 96 + 4ll. not paged.

reference to the date of arrival in spring. The purpose of the list, aside from its faunistic value, is to aid local observers in their field studies of birds.— J. A. A.

**Cole on Birds from Yucatan.**<sup>1</sup>— The collections forming the basis of the present paper were made at Chichen-Itza, Yucatan, by Mr. Cole, from February 13 to April 9, 1904, the observation and collection of birds being "rather incidental to the other collecting." The present list is intended "to include every species of bird known to have been definitely reported from Chichen-Itza," and numbers 128 species. The list is based on four sources of information: (1) birds collected by the author; (2) easily recognizable birds (2 in number) added on the authority of Mr. E. H. Thompson, U. S. Consul, owner of a large plantation at Chichen-Itza; (3) a collection of skins (84 specimens, representing 53 species) made by Mr. Thompson in the early nineties; (4) records from other sources, including Mr. F. M. Chapman's list<sup>2</sup> of 74 species, obtained by him at Chichen-Itza in March, 1896. This is an increase of 54 over Mr. Chapman's list, while 10 of those listed by Mr. Chapman are here given on his authority. A supplemental list of 13 species is given of birds collected or observed elsewhere in Yucatan, not yet reported from Chichen-Itza.

The annotations include, besides the usual field notes, the Maya names, and reports, in the case of a number of species, on the contents of stomachs by Mr. F. S. Millspaw. *Otus choliba thompsoni* is described as new. While *Otus* seems properly to replace *Megascops*, the use of *Asio* in place of *Bubo*, as here and by other writers who are ambitious to be up to date in names, is a little premature, a recent decision on these names by the A. O. U. Nomenclature Committee being to the effect that *Bubo* and *Asio* are entitled to their time-honored associations. Mr. Cole's list is an excellent summary of our present knowledge of the bird-life of Chichen-Itza.— J. A. A.

**Proceedings of the Delaware Valley Ornithological Club.**— 'Cassinia, a Bird Annual,'<sup>3</sup> contains, as usual, much of interest relating to the ornithology of Pennsylvania and New Jersey. The opening paper (pp. 1-9) is a biographical sketch of William Bartram, by George Spencer Morris, illustrated with a portrait of Bartram, and a drawing of 'The Bartram House, Bartram's Garden, Philadelphia,' by the author of the paper.

<sup>1</sup> Vertebrata from Yucatan. Introduction and Aves, by Leon J. Cole; Mammalia, by Glover M. Allen; Reptilia, Amphibia, Pices, by Leon J. Cole and Thomas Barbour. Bull. Mus. Comp. Zool. at Harvard College, Vol. L, No. 5, pp. 100-159, pl. 1, 2, November, 1906. Birds, pp. 109-146.

<sup>2</sup> Bull. Am. Mus. Nat. Hist., VII, 1896, pp. 271-290.

<sup>3</sup> Cassinia, A Bird Annual. Proceedings of the Delaware Valley Ornithological Club of Philadelphia, 1906. Issued February, 1907. 8vo, pp. 76, frontispiece and 1 half-tone plate.